

I wish the seniors luck in their future endeavors, and I extend my best wishes to the coaches and the team for another outstanding season next year.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT “BOB”
MCGLOTTEN

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable gentleman and long-time workers' rights icon in Washington, D.C., Mr. Robert “Bob” McGlotten, who departed this world on March 12th, 2016. He was a labor rights trailblazer, champion for positive social change, beloved husband, father, and dedicated public servant. He set a standard of excellence in labor reform, social justice, and national leadership that has been equaled by few other people.

Bob was a trailblazer who made history and changed America for the better. He served the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) in many capacities including as its Legislative Director, the first African American to serve in that high position, where he championed the rights of millions of working men and women for nearly three decades. One of his key accomplishments was to increase union involvement in employment programs across the country.

His career included his exceptional service as a board member for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation as well as his work as a special assistant to former Secretary of Labor Peter Brennan. Bob came from humble beginnings, but rose to become one of the nation's most powerful and effective union leaders. He stood shoulder-to-shoulder with my father, former Congressman Bill Clay, as they worked tirelessly to promote and protect the rights of the American worker.

I have known him since I was a child. A grand and gracious gentleman, he was a visionary. My Mom and Dad, and indeed our entire family, have wonderful memories of him. We always regarded him as a person of great integrity, a gentleman and a scholar, and a man who possessed both a warm smile and a caring heart.

My thoughts and prayers are with Bob's family, associates, and colleagues at this painful hour. He is survived by his beloved wife of 23 years, Cheryl; his dear daughters Karen, Darlene and Roben; and his cherished sisters Patricia and Teresa Sparks; along with 10 grandchildren and a host of great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

I too have a heavy heart, as I reflect on our many years of enduring friendship. Bob was an incredible person who touched the hearts of people throughout the country that he served so ably and so well.

May God bless him with perfect peace and eternal rest and may He bless all who mourn him with strength, faith, and renewed dedication to continue his good works.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of Congress to join me in honoring the memory of Bob McGlotten for his legacy of honor and his strong commitment to confront injustice and inequality wherever he found it.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire. I am pleased to join previous volunteers, mentors, program participants and supporters of the program to recognize the commitment and hard work the “Bigs” have made in the lives of the “Littles” they have impacted in the Granite State over the past 50 years.

The belief of Big Brothers Big Sisters is very simple. They believe that every child has the ability to succeed in life, and for some it takes the extra guidance of a mentor to help them on their way to success. Their mission is more difficult as we sadly know that many children come from difficult situations, single parent households, or have challenges in learning and socializing unlike other kids their age. The “Bigs,” or adult mentors, become a consistent presence in the lives of their “Littles” and help lend structure, support and confidence to these kids in their everyday lives. Many kids who have come up through Big Brothers Big Sisters have given testimony over the years that they wouldn't be where they are today were it not for the help and support of their Big Brother or Big Sister, and I thank these men and women for taking time out of their lives to help support the children of our great state.

I am proud to join with my fellow Granite Staters in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire, and wish them all the best in their future years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RADIO
FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY
AND VOICE OF AMERICA

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate our civilian U.S. international media organizations, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Voice of America, for the dramatic work they have done in jointly creating and developing their Russian language television news venture, “Current Time.”

“Current Time” draws upon a uniquely informed network of reporters and commentators to provide timely and credible news. It has expanded since its debut in October 2014 from a 30-minute, daily broadcast into a brand that combines daily and weekly programs on numerous platforms to bring audiences all along Russia's borders—from the Baltic countries, through Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova, to the Caucasus countries and on into Central Asia—the information they need.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating and supporting the “Current Time” team, and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

and the Voice of America. Their work makes a critical contribution to supporting the freedom of the press for Russian speakers in critical regions around the world.

THE GREAT LAKES—A NATIONAL
TREASURE

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, Teddy Roosevelt, America's original conservationist said, “We are prone to speak of the resources of this country as inexhaustible. This is not so.”

This could not be more true for our nation's water: the lakes, rivers, streams, and oceans that enrich our land and people.

That's why, today, World Water Day, I would like to address the importance of protecting one of our national treasures, the Great Lakes. I have had the opportunity to represent parts of both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario during my time in Congress and serve as co-chair of the House Great Lakes Task Force. I know first-hand just how important the lakes are to my district, the region, as well as the country and planet.

The Great Lakes represent 20 percent of the world's fresh water supply and 95 percent of our nation's fresh water supply. They are a source of drinking water, jobs, and recreation for millions of Americans. They are one of our country's most precious resources.

We have an obligation to protect and rehabilitate this precious resource. From historic problems which have risen from mistakes made generations ago to new threats, like climate change, there are so many matters endangering the health of our Great Lakes. This is why programs such as the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative are so important to our region. The GLRI has funded the cleanup of toxic substances and has helped to combat the threat to our lakes from invasive species.

We are all aware of the threat Asian Carp and other invasive species pose to the Great Lakes water system. The Asian Carp have been destructive to the rivers and streams that they have invaded and we must do everything in our power to prevent them from entering the Great Lakes at all. They have no natural predators to keep their populations in check and we cannot afford to let these fish wreak havoc on the ecosystems of the Great Lakes.

I have consistently supported efforts to proactively protect our systems from dangerous invasive species and will continue to do so. I encourage my colleagues to join me. We need to make sure to hold Congress responsible for adequately funding the programs such as the GLRI and to work proactively to prevent the introduction of pollutants and species that threaten the safety and security of our water.

In fact, humans can only survive four days without water. Ensuring the safety and availability of our water is truly life or death.

These magnificent bodies of water are truly precious and we must do all that we can to protect these national treasures for future generations.